

Tab B
Oxc-2555

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On the matter of survivability of the operational aircraft, it is to be noted that discussions were held on this topic by the IO personnel and [redacted] and Mr. C. L. Johnson. [redacted] has undoubtedly devoted some thought to this topic; however, it is not within his assigned responsibilities to conduct any investigations in this area above and beyond the A. R. vehicle configuration. Mr. Johnson's organization is conducting a survivability study. The results of that study are not yet available.

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During the formative stages of this project, considerable attention was given to the matter of survivability, including detection and tracking by ground and airborne radars and infra red sensing systems as well as sonic boom effects. Enemy developments in these fields as well as in manned interceptors and surface to air missiles were examined carefully and final technical judgement was made by a group of five eminent scientists in this country.

If it is agreed that this particular specialized topic should become a matter for discussion by personnel of the IO Staff, such discussions should be held with Headquarters personnel who are aware of the background work and current investigations relating to this matter rather than by personnel, contractor or otherwise, in the field. Such discussions with personnel at this Headquarters have not taken place. It would be possible, on the basis of information now available, to prepare a chart of the qualitative type as described by Mr. Kirkpatrick, if this is desired.

Finally, it is not recommended that the request for a survivability study by the AFSC Foreign Technology Division be resubmitted to Mr. Bissell for approval at the present time. Rather, the Lockheed study should be evaluated when available, and additional work by AFSC or some other organization such as [redacted] be re-opened at that time.

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